

Bureau of Land Management, Interior

§ 3254.11

§ 3252.13 How long may I collect information from my temperature gradient well?

You may collect information from your temperature gradient well for as long as we approve.

§ 3252.14 How must I complete a temperature gradient well?

Complete temperature gradient wells in a way that allows for proper abandonment and prevents interzonal migration of fluids. Cap all tubing when not in use.

§ 3252.15 When must I abandon a temperature gradient well?

When you no longer need it, or when we require you to.

§ 3252.16 How must I abandon a temperature gradient well?

(a) Before abandoning your well, submit a complete and signed sundry notice describing how you plan to abandon wells and reclaim the surface. Do not begin abandoning wells or reclaiming the surface until we approve your sundry notice.

(b) You must plug and abandon your well to permanently prevent interzonal migration of fluids and migration of fluids to the surface. You must reclaim your well location to our satisfaction.

Subpart 3253—Reports: Exploration Operations

§ 3253.10 Must I share the data I collect through exploration operations with BLM?

(a) For exploration operations on your geothermal lease, you must submit all data you obtain as a result of the operations with a signed notice of completion of exploration operations form under 43 CFR 3253.11, unless we approve a later submission.

(b) For exploration operations on unleased lands or on leased lands where you are not the lessee or unit operator, you do not need to submit data. However, if you want your exploration operations to count toward your diligent exploration expenditure requirement (43 CFR 3210.13), or if you are making significant expenditures to extend your lease (43 CFR 3208.14), you must send

BLM the resulting data under the rules of those sections.

§ 3253.11 Must I notify BLM when I have completed my exploration operations?

Yes. Send us a complete and signed notice of completion of exploration operations form, describing the exploration operations, well history, completion and abandonment procedures, or site reclamation measures. You must send this within 30 days after you:

- (a) Complete any geophysical exploration operations;
- (b) Complete the drilling of temperature gradient well(s) approved under your exploration permit;
- (c) Plug and abandon a temperature gradient well; or
- (d) Plug shot holes and reclaim all exploration sites.

Subpart 3254—Inspection, Enforcement, and Noncompliance for Exploration Operations

§ 3254.10 May BLM inspect my exploration operations?

Yes, we may inspect your exploration operations to ensure compliance with the requirements of 43 CFR 3200.4.

§ 3254.11 What will BLM do if my exploration operations do not meet all requirements?

(a) We will issue you a written incident of noncompliance and direct you to correct the problem within a set time. If the noncompliance continues or is serious in nature, we will take one or more of the following actions:

- (1) Correct the problem at your expense;
- (2) Direct you to modify or shut down your operations;
- (3) Collect all or part of your bond.

(b) We may also require you to take actions to prevent unnecessary impacts to the lands. If so, we will notify you of the nature and extent of any required measures and the time you have to complete them.

(c) Noncompliance may result in BLM canceling your lease, if applicable. See 43 CFR 3213.23 through 3213.25.